



News Release

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360-236-4074
360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Lisa A. Arneson** (RN00087619) with unprofessional conduct. Arneson allegedly worked as a registered nurse in Washington with an expired license.

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Sharon E. Hilker** (LP00013604) with unprofessional conduct. Hilker allegedly forged at least five prescriptions for herself.

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Sara L. Wardian** (RN60015759) with unprofessional conduct. Wardian allegedly diverted numerous controlled substances for her own use from the facility where she worked and tested positive for at least five controlled substances during a workplace drug screen.

Chelan County

In July 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the credential of certified nursing assistant **Dennis A. Merritt** (NC60168638). Merritt must comply with terms and conditions set against his credential, including participation in a substance abuse monitoring program.

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In August 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered and certified nursing assistant **Brittany Anne Smith** (NA60019038, NC60071383) with unprofessional conduct. Smith allegedly used a resident's credit card to buy about \$1,160 in merchandise.

Clark County

In July 2012 the Massage Program granted the credential of **Brandy M. Layson**, also known as Brandy M. Peterson and Brandy M. Thawsh (MA60287471), and placed conditions against it for two years. Layson must provide massage services in a facility setting. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her credential.

In July 2012 the Massage Program charged **Karrisa J. Wessa** (MA60060120) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Wessa allegedly continued to work as a massage therapist while her credential was expired.

In July 2012 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program ended the probation order against the credential of paramedic **Richard Leland Wilson** (ES01166403).

Cowlitz County

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Connie Jo Cothren** (RN00110516) with unprofessional conduct. Cothren allegedly did not comply with a previous stipulation.

In August 2012 the Medical Commission charged physician assistant **Bryan L. McCoy** (PA60120306) with unprofessional conduct for allegedly asking a patient if she would have sex with him and kissing the back of her hand.

In July 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Gabriel Wyman Vivian** (NC60183666) with unprofessional conduct. Vivian allegedly tested positive for a controlled substance during a drug test. His U.S. Army EMS and National Registry Emergency Medical Technician EMS certifications were revoked for this conduct.

King County

In July 2012 the Health Care Assistant ended the probation order against **Amanda Christina-Maria Dollente** (HC60205376, HC60225953).

In August 2012 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended the probation order against the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Kennith Wayne Fowler** (CO60155876).

In July 2012 the Massage Program charged **Kristin K. Lee** (MA60072225) with unprofessional conduct. Lee is allegedly advertising that she provides massage services and she's currently practicing massage with an expired credential.

In July 2012 the Pharmacy Board granted the credential of pharmacy technician **Steven Nguyen** (VA60285450). Nguyen must comply with terms and conditions set against his credential.

In July 2012 the Veterinary Board of Governors charged veterinary technician **Timothy S. Rollins** (AT00002064) with unprofessional conduct. Rollins allegedly did not comply with a previous stipulation.

In July 2012 the Veterinary Board of Governors granted the credential of veterinary technician **Morganne Belle Sullivan** (AT60222138). Sullivan must comply with terms and conditions set against her credential.

Pierce County

In July 2012 the Social Worker Program ended the probation order against independent clinical social worker **Elizabeth R. Allen**, also known as Betsy R. Phillips (LW00009303).

In August 2012 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program denied the credential application of **Marc Joshua Gerson** (CG60275298). Gerson is unable to practice as a counselor with reasonable skill and ability due to a medical or mental condition.

Stevens County

In August 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Alana Jane Barry** (NA60120658) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Barry did not comply with a previous order.

Walla Walla County

In July 2012 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program charged emergency medical technician **Blaine M. McCubbins** (ES01174209) with unprofessional conduct. McCubbins allegedly punched and kicked his pregnant girlfriend in the stomach and was convicted of second-degree assault.

Whatcom County

In July 2012 the Nursing Commission set aside the May 22, 2012, default order against registered nurse **Aeron A. Ries** (RN00140928).

Whitman County

In July 2012 the Nursing Assistant Program entered into an agreed order with registered and certified nursing assistant **Lisa Ann Aase** (NA00098511, NC60202013). Aase must comply with terms and conditions set against her credential.

Yakima County

In July 2012 the Massage Program charged **Jacob Hill** (MA00023671) with unprofessional conduct. Hill allegedly had sex with a client during a massage and put his penis into another client's mouth during a massage.

Out of state

California: In August 2012 the Pharmacy Board ended the probation order against pharmacist **Michael F. White** (PH00018978).

Oregon: In July 2012 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Denise M. Hemenway-Mantei** (LP00028927) with unprofessional conduct. Hemenway-Mantei allegedly administered medication to a patient improperly.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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